
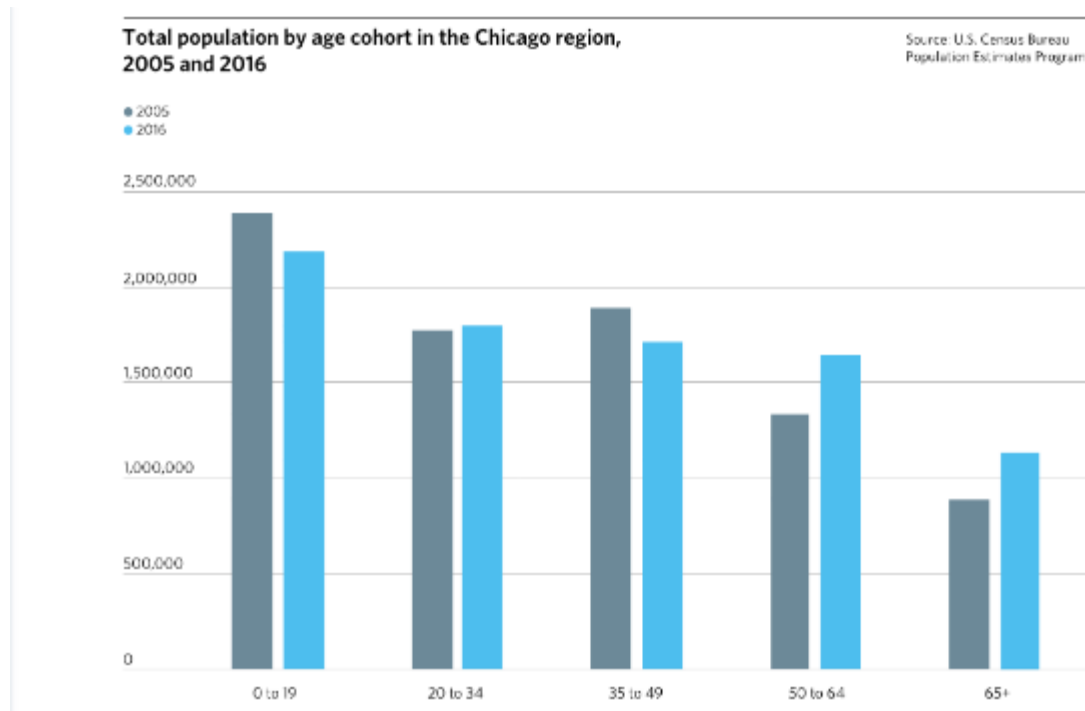


New apartments smaller? Here's one reason why

 evanstonnow.com/story/real-estate/bill-smith/2017-06-22/77855/new-apartments-smaller-heres-one-reason-why

By Bill
Smith



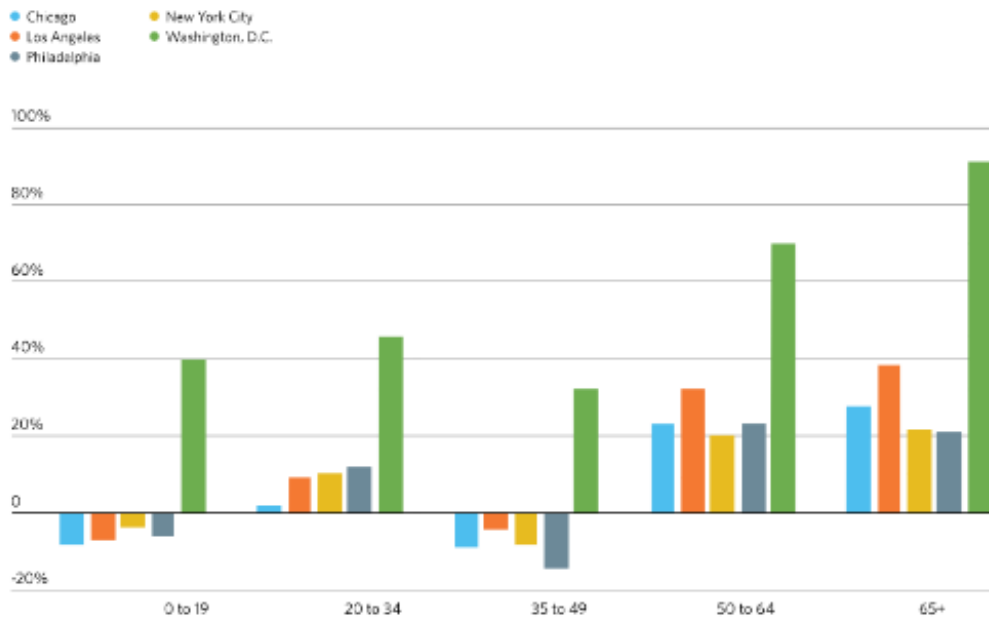
A new report from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning may help explain why apartment sizes in new developments in Evanston are shrinking.

[The CMAP analysis](#) of U.S. Census estimates says the region's population of children, and of adults of prime child-rearing age, is shrinking.

But there's been a growth in the number of younger adults and of older people.

Population growth rates by age cohort in the Chicago region and select peer regions between 2005 and 2016

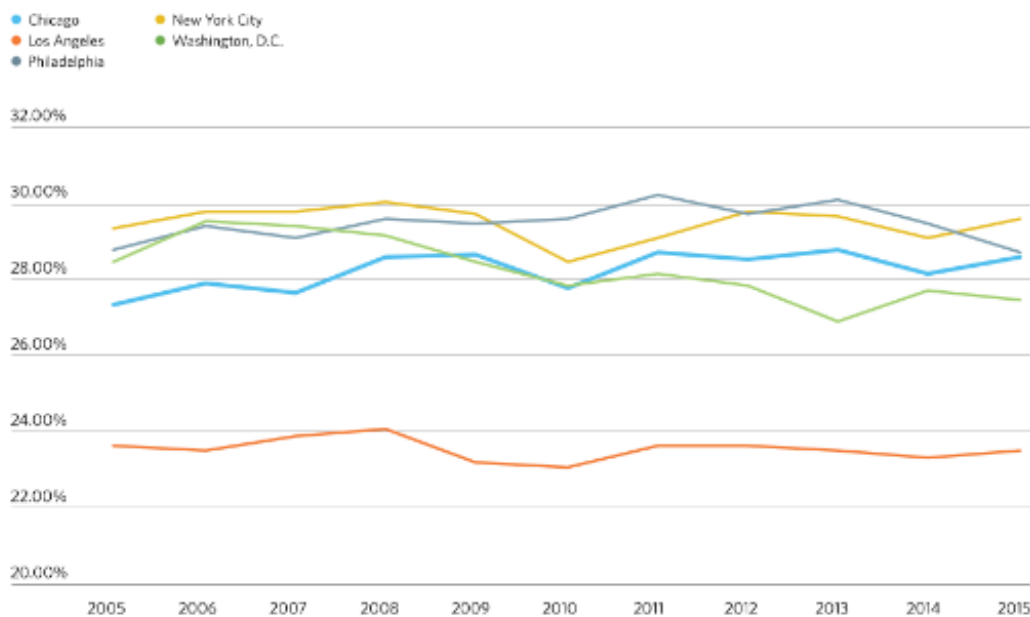
Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Population Estimates Program



The same trends have been seen in several other major cities to which Chicago is often compared.

Share of single-person households in the Chicago region and select peer regions, 2005-2015

Source: American Community Survey
1-year estimates, 2005-2015



And with the average age at marriage also rising, there's been an decline in the number of households that include children, and an increase in the number of single-person households.

Evanston has done [modestly better than the Chicago region as a whole](#) on overall population trends in recent years, but, like the region, has failed to show the kind of dramatic population growth seen in some other parts of the country.

The CMAP study suggests that the regional decline in population is a drag on many aspects of economic activity.

